(b) The controlled nitrogenous fertilizers are available to farmers at highly subsidised rates and therefore the benefit of subsidy reaches the farmers. As far as decontrolled phosphatic and potassic fertilizers are concerned, the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is administering a scheme to provide concessions to the farmers. This scheme is being implemented through the respective State Govts./U.T. Admns. and necessary guidelines for implementation of the scheme have been issued. ?

Activities of the settlement commission

2694. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has any check/control on the activities of the Settlement Commission (Income Tax/Wealth Tax), particulary in view of the findings of the Tax Reforms Committee headed by Shri C. Raja Chellajah in its report submitted in 1992 that the Settlement Commission has in fact become an easy route for tax evaders and is being used by them as another amnesty scheme; and

(b) if so, the details of the manner in which the check/control is being made by his Ministry on the said Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR / MURTHY): (a) and (b) The Commission is working under the over-all control of the Ministry of Finance. There is a system of quarterly monitoring and review of performance of the Commission with reference to disposal of cases, pendency etc.

उत्तर प्रदेश के ग्रामीण बैंकों को हुए घाटे

2695. **चौधरी हरमोहन सिंह :** क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि 1991–92 के बाद उत्तर प्रदेश के ग्रामीण बैंकों को हो रहे घाटों में लगातार वृद्धि हो रही है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसके कारण क्या हैं ; और

(ग) घाटों को कम करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या कदम उठाये गये हैं ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा० अबरार अहमद) : (क) और (ख) राष्ट्रीय कृषि और ग्रामीण विकास बैंक (नाबार्ड) ने सूचित किया हैं कि राज्य में कार्य कर रहे 40 क्षेत्रीय ग्रामीण बैंकों में से 1991–92 और 1992–93 के दौरान क्रमश: 32 क्षेत्रीय ग्रामीण बैंकों ने 48.51 करोड़ रुपए की और 31 क्षेत्रीय ग्रामीण बैंकों ने 48.15 करोड़ रुपए की हानियों की सूचना दी थी। इस प्रकार यह देखा जा सकता है कि 1992–93 के दौरान क्षेत्रीय ग्रामीण बैंकों को हुई हानियों में मामूली कमी आई है। क्षेत्रीय ग्रामीण बैंकों को हुई हानियों के कारणों में ग्राहकों की सीमित संख्या, परिचालन का सीमित क्षेत्र, निम्न ब्याज मार्जिन और बढ़ती हुई स्थापना लागत जैसे कई कारण इसमें शामिल हैं।

(ग) भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक और नाबार्ड सरकार के साथ परामर्श करके क्षेत्रीय ग्रामीण बैंकों की हानियों को रोकने और उनकी अर्थक्षमता में सुधार करने के लिए कई उपाय कर रहे हैं। हाल ही में किए गए उपायों में अन्यों के साथ-साथ गैर-लक्ष्य समूह वित्त पोषण को 40% से बढ़ाकर 60% करने, गैर-निधि कारबार बढ़ाने, उन क्षेत्रीय ग्रामीण

बैंकों को सेवा क्षेत्र बाध्यता से मुक्त करने जिनका 1992–93 के दौरान संवितरण 2 करोड़ रुपए से कम था, हानि उठाने वाली शाखाओं को मंडियों, ताल्लुका/जिला मुख्यालयों, कृषि उत्पाद केन्द्रों आदि जैसे स्थानों में अवस्थिति करने की अनुमति देने और जिन संस्थानों के क्षेत्रीय ग्रामीण बैंक प्रमुख बैंकर हैं उनके परिसरों में विस्तार काउंटर खोलने सहित इसमें कई उपाय शामिल है। क्षेत्रीय ग्रामीण बैंकों को सुरक्षित जमा जाकर स्थापित करने की अनुमति भी दी गई है।

Fake Policies of LIC

2696. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 2 given in the Rajya Sabha on 22nd February, 1994 and state;

(a) whetner Government have come across fake policies of LIC taken by policy holders;

(b) if so, what is the number of fake LIC policies detected during 1991-92 and 1992-93 and what is the estimated amount involved in each of these years;

(c) in how many cases the maturе dfake policies were paid to the policyholders;

(d) whether any inquiry has been conducted by the Government to identify the racket involved and the official involvement if any; and

(e) if so, what is the outcome thereof and what action has been taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) The Life Insurance Corporation of India have reported that they have a full-proof system to verify the correctness of the facts furnished in the proposal from by the proponent before issuing a policy in his favour. They also reported that they have not come across any case of fake insurance policy taken by policyholders.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Investigations into fera violation by bennet and collman

2697. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pelased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Enforcement Directorate is investigating a case fo FERA violation against Shri Ashok Jain, Chairman; Bennet and Collman;

(b) if so, what is the latest possition of the investigation of the case and in case it has been dropped, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Reserve Bank of India has issued a licence to establish a bank to M/s. Bennet and Collman as a division thereof; and

(d) the reasons for granting banking licence to the Company especially when the case of FERA violation and security scams are under investigation by Government agencies against the M/s. Bennet and Collman?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Income-tax notice to Ms. Jayalalitha

2698. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the notices issued by the Income Tax authorities under Section 148 and other Sections of the